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there is far greater opportunity for the display of public spirit in the exercise of the arts of peace.

"We therefore earnestly appeal to you as the teachers of youth, to use your best endeavors to counteract the false teachings to which we have referred. We implore you to hold up before the young the examples of those who have given their lives for their country without any desire to take away the lives of others — the martyrs of a faith; the victims of unjust political and social persecution; the great thinkers, teachers, and discoverers, who have roused us to higher conceptions of life and duty.

"We entreat you further to point out that such heroes are not confined to our own country, but are to be found also in those nations against whom the teaching of militarism tends to encourage hostile feelings; for we maintain that patriotism is in no way connected with suspicion or distrust of the inhabitants of other countries. We believe, on the contrary, and we urge you to explain to your pupils, that the interest of one nation is, in the end, the interest of all; that freer intercourse between men and women of different races, by exchange of ideas and of kind services, and, in a less degree, by free commerce, must tend, in the long run, to bring more strength and life to Great Britain than can ever be produced by the study of the arts of war.

"While, too, we deny that military training is necessary to the full development of bodily strength, we would call your attention to those exercises encouraged by the life saving brigades for securing the preservation of life in times of danger, and the rendering of first aid in case of accidents. These processes, when accompanied, as they are, by Swedish drill, tend to promote not only complete physical development, but also keen observation, and, better still, sympathy with suffering and weakness.

"By these means we shall counteract those false notions of duty which are associated with violence and self-glorification, and which sow the seeds of bitter and barbarous feeling between people of different races.

"(Signed) SAMUEL A. BARNETT,  
" (Canon of Bristol and Warden  
of Toynbee Hall), and others."

### Inflaming the Passions of School Children.

BY ERNEST H. CROSBY.

They have just made me a member of the board of education of our village high school. I visited the school by invitation on the first day of the school year and took part in the opening exercises; and a pretty sight it was, two or three hundred boys and girls, looking as happy and healthy as you please. And what do you suppose that they were singing at the top of their voices, together with their teachers, who ought to have known better: "The army and navy forever! Three cheers for the red, white and blue!"

Now I can understand the state of mind of the man who regards war as a sad and deplorable necessity (although I am satisfied that it is not a necessity at all), but the mental condition of the person who considers it a proper thing to exult in and sing about in times of profound peace passes the limits of my imagination. I can understand the fears of the nervous man who keeps a revolver in a drawer near his bed in order to protect

his household from burglars, but what should we say of him if, when he gathered his family together day after day at morning prayers, he should lead them in singing vociferously and enthusiastically "The pistol and cartridge forever! Three cheers for the red, white and blue!"

Now the only legitimate use of the army and navy (admitting that they have any) is to protect us against international burglars and freebooters. Why then, in the name of common sense, should we glory in them any more than the paterfamilias in his weapons of self-defense. What should we think of savage tribes who sang praises of their boomerangs and tomahawks? And I am sure we should disapprove even of a pedagogical mother-dog who should teach her puppies to howl in chorus, "Three cheers for our claws, teeth and fangs!"

The fact is we are not half civilized yet. And what can we expect in the future from a generation of children whose characters are so warped during their most impressionable years? Children take all too kindly to fighting, anyhow. They are naturally given to excessive patriotism of the brass band description, and they have a tendency of themselves to despise foreigners and exalt their own nation. They need curbing and correction along these lines, and instead of handling these tendencies of theirs with caution and care, we deliberately do all we can to inflame their passions and confirm them in the paths of illiberality and strife.

And it isn't only the singing, either. They want a new American history at our school, and I am the committee to select it and buy it, and there is not a decent history extant, so far as I can find out. The best of them has its last page devoted to a thrilling picture of the famous advance up San Juan Hill. It seems to me that this fact alone stamps it as lacking in historical perspective. This little Cuban War of ours, in which a day and a half's fighting of our land forces was mixed with many months of advertising, begins already to contract its proportions. At the very time our soldiers were mounting San Juan Hill (or was it Kettle Hill?) to liberate the oppressed Cubans, they were calling these latter gentlemen monkeys and niggers; and I see that only a little while ago the Cuban government had to apologize to ours for the defiling of an American consular coat-of arms with filth by our grateful liberatees.

There was certainly something wrong about that much heralded and belauded exploit of disinterested chivalry. I bought a most admirable French school history some time ago, and I am sorry that I cannot now lay my hand on it. It gave full and accurate account of the wars of the past and awarded credit to the courage of soldiers, but it represented war as an unfortunate exhibition of human activity, and expressed the hope that it would soon be outlived, emphasizing the advances that mankind had made in the direction of true humanity, and dwelling fondly upon the triumphs of peace and industry and intellect. The pictures that were devoted to battle-scenes showed the horrors of warfare rather than the imaginary glories, and most of the illustrations celebrated the achievements of construction, and not those of destruction. I trust it will not be long before we have some such text-book of American history, teaching our children to love all the peoples of the world and to abhor the idea of slaughtering them. And when it is written, may

there be found boards of education and school-faculties ready to adopt it for their classes.—*From the Papyrus.*

## Britain's Militarism.

*From the Herald of Peace.*

BY ROBERT SPENCE WATSON, LL.D.

(The author of this article has been, since the death of Sir Joseph W. Pease, president of the Peace Society, London. He is one of the most experienced arbitrators of labor troubles in England, having been the referee in more than eighty labor-capital controversies.—ED.)

The question as to how far in the present day the cause of peace has made real progress is one which we must consider with anxious care. For "we grow old," and our hearts have often been sickened by the deferring of what seemed reasonable and well-founded hopes. Those of us who remember the opening of the first Crystal Palace in 1851 still recall how it was looked upon and spoken of as the formal opening of the reign of peace, and how, before the year closed, France had received from her traitorous chief the severe blow of the *Coup-d'Etat*, and the gates of the Temple of Janus have never been closed since. Nay, at this very time, the Czar of Russia has called the nations of the world to a second peace conference, apparently forgetful of the terrible wars waged by this country and by his own since the first (from which so much was hoped) was held, and of the war which has raged in his own dominions since the massacre, on January 22, 1905, of unarmed peasants whose crime was the wish to petition him for relief.

And yet few persons will deny that there has been during late years, and that there is now, a strong and growing feeling amongst the peoples of civilized nations (as distinguished, in some cases, from their rulers) in favor of the peaceful settlement of international difficulties. The very wars I have alluded to have fostered and encouraged this feeling by forcibly showing the cruel horrors, the unreasoning madness, and the terrible and unthought of penalties, which accompany strife.

### INCREASE OF MILITARISM.

But, strangely enough, in our own land this is the very time when there has sprung up a widely spread movement, which manifests itself in many ways, in favor of new and extensive warlike preparations. In spite of the financial facts, which constantly stare us in the face, that our forces cost us much more for less result than those of any other nation; that our warlike expenditure has increased six-fold in the last half century; that the wars in which we have indulged have wasted the moneys which our own people so greatly need, but have gained for us nothing in prestige, in commerce, in comfort, or security at home; that the flag has proved a wretched trade asset, because trade has never followed it, and no honest and proud nation would desire or dream that it should,—in spite of these facts, we have the constant advice from supposed experts that all we have done in the way of expenditure upon the forces is as nothing to that which we should do. Although we have had constant evidence that to be prepared for war, instead of insuring peace, leads, sooner or later, directly to war, we listen complacently to the apostles of militarism when they preach that the true way to save life is to be prepared to take it upon a sufficiently colossal scale. We are making far too much of our military heroes. It is an error which always precedes the downfall of great

nations. Let us see what we gain or lose by following implicitly the advice of those whose trade is war, and who are indeed skilled in magnifying their office.

### APOSTLES OF MILITARISM.

It is interesting to note that though our army has grown more expensive, it has not become more efficient. Our wars have been either with agricultural people, greatly our inferiors numerically, in which case they have at least held their own with us, or with savage tribes whom we have massacred wholesale. But the rewards in money and honors which we have showered upon our generals would have astonished the Duke of Wellington when he had conquered, in countless conflicts and wars lasting through long years, every one of Napoleon's greatest generals, and even defeated the despot of Europe himself. We seem in all things to have lost the sense of proportion now that in every line of life our really great men have left us. But not only so: we now give these unduly exalted heroes a leading place in the councils of the nations, and that not after they have proved their capability to fulfill the necessary duties of legislative administration, but have only indifferently evidenced some knowledge of their own useless and costly trade. It is, as we might expect, the big army officers who are at the bottom of all the military mischief, when, having no killing to do, their idle hands are turned to mischief. They are, in and out of season, always magnifying their office. This is no new thing, but that which is new is the way in which now they are listened to. Their teaching, instead of being received with the caution which should be exercised towards all teaching which has its root in self-interest, is looked upon as inspired. Indeed, it is the only inspiration now all but universally recognized. They urge that every school should become a home of compulsory military instruction; that the young and the older children should alike be taught that the art of killing your fellow-men is the foremost of all. Our universities and university colleges have been seized by this form of plague, and throughout England and Scotland many of them have actually appointed professors of the noble art of self-defense, or, in other words, of legalized murder. What wonder that the still, small voice of the gospel of peace should be silenced by the universal crack of rifle fusilades! We get a new reading of all the worn-out Christian shibboleths: "Lying lips are an abomination unto the Lord," but Lord Wolseley plainly preaches that the soldier's duty is to lay this old-fashioned notion aside. A man cannot be a soldier and obey God so far as truthfulness is concerned; then he must give up God and obey his general. "Love your enemies; do good to them that despitefully use you;" and our daily papers have been filled with admiring notices of General Dragomiroff, who died on the 28th ult., "one of the greatest military authorities in Russia," "the finest tactician in the Russian army." And what were these fine tactics which our journals so much admire, and which not even the least imperial among them condemns? We have his own words for them: "I tell my soldiers to begin fighting the moment the enemy is within reach. Half a dozen volleys will do, then onward with the bayonet, onward, onward; never retreat a step so long as a single enemy is left standing. The bayonet is an excellent weapon. If it is broken, use the butt end of the rifle; if all your weapons are broken, use your